Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /124 W

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R 120756Z JUL 78 FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6215 INFO USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 6966

E.O.11652: N/A TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: COMMERCIAL COUNTERFEITING

REF: STATE 167575

1. ECON COUNSELOR DISCUSSED COMMERCIAL COUNTERFEITING ISSUE WITH LIEW SIP HON, DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, ON JULY 11. DELAY IN MEETING WAS DUE TO MALAYSIAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS HELD ON JULY 8 WHICH HAVE COMPLETELY IMMOBILIZED GOM IN LAST TWO WEEKS. LEW RESPONDED QUITE WELL TO OUR PRESENTATION WHICH WAS BASED ON INFORMATION IN REFTEL. HE STATED THAT HE SAW NO PARTICULAR PROBLEM FROM THE GOM'S STANDPOINT IN REACHING AN ACCORD ON THIS ISSUE. HE POINTED OUT THAT MALAYSIA HAS ALREADY TAKEN STEPS IN THIS AREA WITH THE TRADE DESCRIPTION ACT WHICH ALLOWS FOR BOTH SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE OF COUNTERFEIT COMMERCIAL PROPERTY. HIS ONLY CAVEATS REFERRED TO TIME AND THAT ATTITUDES OF OTHER LDC'S. HE INDICATED THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY INTRAGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT TO SEND INSTRUCTION TO THE GOM MTN DELEGATION BEFORE JULY 15. WITH RESPECT TO THE LDC'S, LEW INDICATED THATMALAYSIA WOULD PROBABLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LIKE TO LEARN WHAT THEIR POSITIONS WERE ON THIS MATTER BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH AN AGREEMENT.

2. COMMENT: WHILE THE IDEA OF AN AGREEMENT ON COMMERCIAL COUNTERFEITING BASICALLY CAUSES NO PROBLEMS FOR THE MALAYSIANS, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO TAKE A LEADING ROLE IN CONVINCING THEIR LDC BRETHREN OF ITS UTILITY.

	Sheryl P. Walter	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	20 Mar 2014
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